

571—14.3(461A) Bidding process.

14.3(1) Persons interested in operating a concession in a state park or recreation area shall submit a bid on forms furnished by the department. It is the bidder's responsibility to inspect the area proposed for concession operation and be fully aware of the condition and physical layout of the area. Concession facilities shall be bid on an "as is" basis unless the department agrees in writing to undertake certain improvements.

The department reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

If no bids are received for concession operation, the department may:

1. Readvertise for bids; or
2. Contact interested persons and attempt to negotiate a contract; or
3. Determine that there will be no concession operation in that particular area that year.

14.3(2) Vending machines and firewood sales.

a. Placement of vending machines in state parks and recreation areas shall not be subject to the advertising and bidding process established by this chapter.

b. Such machines may be placed in state parks and recreation areas only by the publisher or distributor of the newspaper and the distributor of the soft drink which will be sold in those machines or by private vending machine companies.

c. Companies placing machines in these areas must first obtain a letter/permit from the director of the department stating where and under what conditions the machines may be placed.

d. Any fees or commissions to be paid by the vendor to the state shall be paid directly to the department's central office in Des Moines, Iowa.

e. The department will not install new electrical lines, concrete pads or any other items needed to enable installation of vending machines.

f. Persons selling only firewood may do so with a letter/permit from the director provided the park or recreation area has no other concessionaire or provided the concessionaire has declined the opportunity to sell firewood.

14.3(3) Friends groups may offer souvenirs, books, photos and other memorabilia for sale in a state park by requesting that a letter/permit be issued by the director. These groups shall not be subject to the bidding procedures of this chapter. All proceeds from the sale of merchandise by the friends group must be spent on repair, replacement or enhancement of facilities within the park.